

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 10293 230006Z
ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 MED-03 AID-05
ICA-20 /054 W

-----024117 230602Z /23

R 222357Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1003

UNCLAS MEXICO 10293

EO 11652 N/A
TAGS: SNAR, MX
SUBJECT:NARCOTICS - DRUG ABUSE PATTERNS IN MEXICO

REF: ALEXANDER/BERNAL TELECON, JUNE 7, 1978

1. FOLLOWING EMBASSY INQUIRIES BASED ON REFTELCON, CENTRO MEXICANO DE ESTUDIOS EN FARMACODEPENDENCIA (CEMEF), THE APPROXIMATE GOM EQUIVALENT OF U. S. NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE, DELIVERED TO EMBASSY JUNE 19 COPY OF AS YET UNPUBLISHED REPORT ENTITLED "PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE IN SELECTED MEXICAN CITIES - HOUSEHOLD INTERVIEWS".

2. STUDY IS BASED ON RANDOM OR STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLES IN MEXICO CITY (1974), LA PAZ, BAJA CALIFORNIA (1974), SAN LUIS POTOSI (1975), MONTERREY (1975) AND PUEBLA (1976). STUDY INVOLVED INTERVIEWS WITH SAMPLE OF 4,715 SELECTED TO REPRESENT A FIXED-RESIDENCE POPULATION AGE 14 OR HIGHER OF BOTH SEXES ESTIMATED AT 6.5 MILLION.

3. ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, THE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION INVOLVED IN THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF DRUGS IS AS FOLLOWS IN EACH OF THE STUDIED CITIES:

(A) MEXICO CITY: MARIJUANA, 1.3; INHALENTS, 0.4; HALUCINOGENS, 0.3; HEROIN-MORPHINE, 0.1.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 10293 230006Z

(B) SAN LUIS POTOSI:MARIJUANA, 2.1; INHALENTS, 0.5; HALUCINOGENS, 0.9; HEROIN-MORPHINE, ZERO.

(C) PUEBLA: MARIJUANA, 0.3; INHALENTS, 0.01; HALUCINOGENS AND HEROIN-MORPHINE, ZERO.

(D) MONTERREY: MARIJUANA, 1.6; INHALENTS, 1.2; HALUCINOGENS
AND HEROIN-MORPHINE, ZERO.

(E) LA PAZ: MARIJUANA, 4.9; INHALENTS, 0.7; HALUCINOGENS,
1.1; HEROIN-MORPHINE, 0.4.

4. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS STUDY, DRUG USE WAS DEFINED AS
USE OF THE SPECIFIED DRUG DURING THE 30 DAYS PRECEEDING
THE INTERVIEW.

5. WHILE THIS STUDY REPORTS DRUG USE IN THE ENTIRE
POPULATION OVER 14, THREE 1972 STUDIES CITED IN THIS
STUDY REPORT:

(A) APPROXIMATELY 12 PERCENT OF MEXICO CITY STUDENTS IN
GRADES SEVEN THROUGH NINE USED MARIJUANA AT LEAST ONCE
AND 1.5 PERCENT USED AMPHETAMINES AT LEAST ONCE.
HEROIN-MORPHINE USE WAS NOT DETECTED.

(B) APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT OF MEXICO CITY STUDENTS
IN GRADES 10 THROUGH 12 USED MARIJUANA AT LEAST ONCE.
THIS POPULATION ALSO REPORTED USE OF INHALENTS (10
PERCENT), AMPHETAMINES (10 PERCENT), BARBITURATES (9
PERCENT) AND LSD (1.2 PERCENT).

(C) IN ONE PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN MEXICO CITY 20 PERCENT
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PAGE 03 MEXICO 10293 230006Z

OF THE STUDENTS REPORTED "EXPERIMENTATION" WITH MARIJUANA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, DRUG ABUSE, DRUGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MEXICO10293
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780261-0889
Format: TEL
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780631/aaaabajr.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d794bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HEW
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2248773
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NARCOTICS - DRUG ABUSE PATTERNS IN MEXICO
TAGS: SNAR, MX
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d794bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014